



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

and of *Vifill jarl* (in the *Þorsteinssaga Víkingssonar*).<sup>19</sup> We find the name already on the *Pilgárdstone* in Gothland, and in the collocation "*Vifil bauð um*."<sup>20</sup> And some noble *Vifell* occurs in the *Hestaheiti* (*Skáldskm.* ch. 58).

I cannot forbear, in conclusion, to mention *Andress'* highly interesting explanation<sup>21</sup> of the hitherto obscure '*Svarðar dóttir*' as *S(ig)varðar dóttir*, which seems very plausible indeed. Together with the tentative assignation of vs. 8-10 to *Einarr Helgason skalaglam*, it is one of the best things in the book.<sup>22</sup>

L. M. HOLLANDER.

University of Wisconsin.

---

*Common Difficulties in Reading French*, by CHARLES C. CLARKE, JR. New York: William R. Jenkins Co. [1910].

Professor Clarke has made a successful attempt to collect in a small volume the words and phrases which trouble students most frequently, and by omitting all but difficult questions has been able to discuss these at length. At times his discussions are even longer than is necessary. Frequently statements occur which are superfluous, if they are warnings, and unsatisfactory, if they are explanations: "Do not confuse these words"—"Note the two words"—"... is a word often misunderstood"—"... does not mean just what it seems to"—etc.

On the other hand, omissions are numerous. P. 3, in discussing the uses of *accroire*, he omits the idiom *s'en faire accroire*, 'presume too much.'—P. 13 he neglects to mention that *avoir* frequently means 'to secure.'—P. 14 he should have warned us that it is only when *avoir beau* is followed by an infinitive that it means 'to do in vain.' *Vous l'avez beau* means 'you have a fine opportunity.'—P. 27, a long list of idiomatic phrases with *coup* fails to include the very common *coup d'état*.—P. 138: "Notice that it is very common for the conclusion of a conditional sentence to appear with merely an implied condition or a complete ellipsis of it." Is it not exactly as useful to know that the conditional part may sometimes appear without the conclusion?

As to his choice of words and phrases for discussion, there is little but praise to be said. A

test of the book reveals only a small number of common mistakes that are not treated. He has forgotten to distinguish *matin* from *mâtin*; *mépris* from *mêprise*; *pêcher* from *pêcher*, but even such omissions are rare.

There are a number of errors. I omit the most of those that are purely typographical: P. 5, under *Affaire*. The running of two paragraphs into one leaves the reader in confusion till he discovers the error.—P. 31. "*De* is placed, in an expletive way, before certain classes of words, where in English there is no chance to render it at all." And as one illustration of this use: "*Votre polisson de frère* (your rascal of a brother)."—P. 38. "*Durant* is often equivalent to *Pendant*, 'while' or 'during' (see *Pendant*). But *pendant* does not appear at all.—P. 77. "After *que* and *si*, *l'* usually appears before *on* to prevent a hiatus." But if *on* followed *que* there would be no hiatus in any case.—P. 91. "*Réclamer* had better not be translated 'reclaim,' but 'to find fault,' to 'protest.'" Is it not true, rather, that *réclamer* is sometimes 'reclaim,' and at other times 'find fault' or 'protest'?—P. 95. "*Savoir* is one of four verbs that can be rendered negative by *ne* alone." There are more than four such verbs.—P. 124. "*Selon lui cortège aurait suivi*," etc., apparently for "*Selon lui le cortège*," etc.—P. 124. The paragraph marked N. B. is evidently misplaced.

The useful part of the book is the alphabetical list of words and phrases which forms Part I. Part II, "Notes on Syntax," is in no wise different from the ordinary grammar, and Part III is a succinct reference table of irregular verbs.

R. T. HOUSE.

Weatherford, Okla.

---

*Sheridan, From New and Original Material; Including a Manuscript Diary of Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire.* By WALTER SICHEL. In two volumes. Illustrated. Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1909. 8vo., pp. xix + 631; xi + 549.

Heretofore two other men have dealt with Sheridan's life at first hand, Thomas Moore and Fraser Rae. Moore's *Life* has always been regarded as inadequate and unjust. Rae's *Biography*, in its statement of facts, is excellent; yet most readers, I believe, have felt repelled by the hero-worship which so highly colors its estimates of Sheridan's personality and achievements. Mr. Sichel justly censures Rae as follows: "Least of

<sup>19</sup> Fas. II, 384. Cf. also *Vifills borg*, *Ragnarss. L.*, Fas. I, 273.

<sup>20</sup> Trans. by Bugge, *Norges Indskrifter med de yngre Runer*, p. 18: 'Dette Ömbud (eller Opdrag) gav. V.'

<sup>21</sup> Ed., p. 15f.

<sup>22</sup> Cf. now also Neckel, *Beiträge zur Eddaforschung*, 1908, pp. 98f., on the interpretation of v. 21.